

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims in accordance with the following rewritten claims in clean form. Applicant includes herewith an Attachment for Claim Amendments showing a marked up version of each amended claim.

8. (Amended) A method for distributing active hidden data in an electronic media distribution system, the media distribution device having a content providing device and at least one player device, comprising the steps of:

providing active hidden data and control data, wherein the active hidden data comprises a set of executable machine instructions and the control data governs the use of the active hidden data;

embedding the active hidden data and the control data into a host data stream to form an embedded data stream, the active hidden data being embedded orthogonal to the control data in the embedded data stream;

transferring the embedded data stream from the content providing device to the player device;

extracting the active hidden data and the control data from the embedded data stream on the player device;

using the control data to ensure the errorless extractability of the active hidden data from the embedded data stream; and

executing the active hidden data on the player device when the active hidden data is extracted without error from the embedded data stream.

15. (Amended) An electronic media distribution system for distributing active hidden data in a host data stream, the media distribution device having a content providing device and at least one player device, the content provider device comprising:

a bit stream generator receiving active hidden data and converting the active hidden data into an active bit stream, wherein the active hidden data comprises a set of executable machine instructions;

a first encoder receiving the active bit stream and the host data stream and embedding the active bit stream into the host data stream, thereby forming an embedded data stream; and

a second encoder receiving control data and the embedded data stream and embedding the control data into the embedded data stream, wherein the control data is used to govern the use of the active hidden data and the control data is orthogonal to the active bit stream in the embedded data stream; and

the at least one player device comprising:

a first decoder receiving the embedded data stream and extracting the control data from the embedded data stream;

a second decoder receiving the embedded data stream from the first decoder and extracting the active bit stream;

a correction module receiving the active bit stream and the control data, and using the control data to ensure errorless extractability of the active bit stream from the embedded data stream; and

an initiator for executing the active bit stream on the player device.

Please cancel Claim 20 without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter contained therein.